United Nations TD/B/C.I/MEM.6/4

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

Distr.: General
6 March 2014

Original: English

Trade and Development Board
Trade and Development Commission
Multi-year Expert Meeting on Promoting Economic Integration and Cooperation
Second session
Geneva, 19–20 May 2014
Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Provisional agenda and annotations

I. Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3. Taking stock of the contribution of effective forms of cooperation to the Millennium Development Goals and their evolution in the area of trade and development
4. Adoption of the report of the meeting

II. Annotations to the provisional agenda

Item 1
Election of officers

1. It is recommended that the expert meeting elect a Chair and a Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur.

Item 2
Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

2. The provisional agenda for the expert meeting is reproduced in chapter I above. A detailed programme will be available one week before the meeting.

Documentation

TD/B/C.I/MEM.6/4 Provisional agenda and annotations

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Item 3
Taking stock of the contribution of effective forms of cooperation to the Millennium Development Goals and their evolution in the area of trade and development

3. The second session of the Multi-year Expert Meeting on Promoting Economic Integration and Cooperation will be held in accordance with the terms of reference approved by the Bureau of the Trade and Development Board on 18 September 2013. The objective of this session is to examine the different forms of international cooperation undertaken in support of the Millennium Development Goals, to assess in which areas international cooperation has been most successful and to identify the key factors behind this success.

4. The Millennium Declaration was unanimously adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations in September 2000, committing to reach eight goals by 2015. Known as the Millennium Development Goals, these objectives have become the measure by which current international development efforts are to be judged. Many effective forms of cooperation have taken place to date in support of the Goals. In the areas of trade and development, the Millennium Development Goals, in particular Goal 8, contain relevant targets and indicators. The main targets include a non-discriminatory international trading system, market access for the least developed countries, a development-oriented financial system, enhanced debt relief for the heavily indebted poor countries, scaling up of official development assistance for poverty reduction and development, technological transfers to poor countries and strategies for decent and productive work for young people. There is widespread agreement that the Millennium Development Goals have placed broad-based poverty reduction at the centre of the development agenda. With regard to actual achievement of the different targets, however, the evidence is uneven, across both Goals and countries.

5. The second session of the current multi-year expert meeting will explore the progress made thus far on the Millennium Development Goals, with particular attention to Goal 8, and propose ways to further strengthen international cooperation in order to achieve the targets. Experts are expected to bring to the meeting their own perspectives and to highlight specific issues in connection with their areas of expertise.

6. To facilitate discussion, the UNCTAD secretariat has prepared a background note. In addition, experts are encouraged to prepare articles on the subject under discussion. These papers will be made available at the meeting in the form and language in which they are received.

Documentation

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Item 4
Adoption of the report of the meeting

7. The report of the expert meeting will be submitted to the Trade and Development Commission at its next session. The expert meeting may wish to authorize the Rapporteur, under the authority of the Chair, to prepare the final report after the conclusion of the meeting.

Input from experts

Experts nominated by member States are encouraged to submit brief papers (approximately 5–12 pages) as contributions to the work of the meeting. The papers will be made available at the meeting in the form and language in which they are received. They should be submitted to the UNCTAD secretariat in advance of the meeting and addressed to Mr. Piergiuseppe Fortunato, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, Palais des Nations, CH-1211, Geneva, Switzerland; phone: +41 22 917 5647; fax: +41 22 917 0050; e-mail: piergiuseppe.fortunato@unctad.org.